

Damien Torres, 7 Roosevelt School – Kearny, NJ

FAMILY HELP-LINE 1-800-THE KIDS



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Summertime is here! This month's tips will help your family have a safe and happy summer. For more tips, visit www.safekids.org.				Put together two first-aid kits with remedies for bug bites, poison ivy, splinters, cuts and scratches. Keep one at home and one in the car.	Throw away broken toys and sports equipment that can't be fixed.	Teach your kids how to check for ticks after playing in the woods or long grass.
Remember "Back to Sleep." Placing baby on his or her back, at nighttime and naptime, is the best way to reduce the risk of suffocation.	Can your children identify poison ivy? Teach them how to spot and avoid this plant.	Keep a written record of each child's medical history, including immunizations, illnesses, allergies and medications.	Swimming season is here. Be sure your children are always supervised around water. Sign them up for lessons.	For times when you're not home, agree on ground rules about cooking, leaving the house and having friends over.	Encourage your children to tell you right away about people or experiences that make them feel fearful or uncomfortable.	Safety first! Make sure everyone is buckled up, even if you're driving just a single short block.
Father's Day A day for dad to plan his favorite activity.	Think fire safety this month—and all year long. Store matches and lighters out of children's reach.	Never leave children, pets or fragile adults alone in the car, not even for a minute.	Flag Day Teach your children about Betsy Ross, who sewed the first American flag.	If your child has special medical needs, make sure teachers, sitters, camp counselors and family members understand how to deal with these needs.	Attend graduations, year-end concerts and other events to show the children and teens in your life that you're proud of them.	Heading for the beach this weekend? Don't forget to take hats, sunscreen and lots of cool drinks.
Children should always ride restrained with a car seat or seat belt and in the back seat.	Was your house or apartment built before 1978? If so, have it tested for lead-based paint and make sure your child's lead levels are tested too.	Teach your children to avoid taking shortcuts through vacant or unknown areas and to walk with someone when possible.	First Day of Summer Instruct children never to play in the road and always walk on paths or sidewalks.	Make sure the bikers, skaters and skateboarders in your family always wear helmets.	Protect your child from poisoning. Store prescriptions, over-the-counter medications and cleaning supplies in a locked drawer or cabinet.	24 Start early to educate your children about the health risks of smoking cigarettes.
Curious toddlers are attracted to wall outlets. To prevent electrocution, keep all electrical outlets covered with safety plugs.	Make sure your children wear light-colored or reflective clothing when playing or riding bikes after supper.	Avoid buying children's clothing with drawstrings. They can get caught in school bus doors, playground equipment and bicycle spokes.	Hold a family fire drill. Children (and adults) will be calmer in a real emergency if they know what to do.	Never hang toys with long strings, cords, loops or ribbons in cribs or playpens. Babies may become tangled and choke.	A parked car becomes fatally hot very quickly. NEVER leave children alone in a car, not even for a minute, not for any reason.	